

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is responsive to the Office Action dated February 23, 2005 wherein the Examiner (a) objected to the disclosure, (b) objected to Claim 4 for insufficient antecedent basis for limitations in the claim, (c) rejected Claims 5, 8 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention, (d) rejected Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,123,075 to Rosewarne et al., (e) rejected Claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosewarne et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,602,797 to Morawski et al., and (f) states that Claims 4, 5, 8, and 13 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, set forth in this action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this response, Applicants (a) amend Claims 1 and 10 to address the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), amend Claim 13 to address the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, (c) amend Claims 4 and 5 to address the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to place Claims 4 and 5 in independent form, (d) added new Claims 14-20, and (e) amends the specification as suggested by the Examiner. For the reasons stated herein, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending Claims 1-6 and 8-20 are in a condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Rosewarne et al. Rosewarne discloses a sleeve encased jaw chuck. The chuck includes an outer chuck body 19 and an inner chuck body 17 secured to the outer chuck body 19 with screws 22. A front plate 23 is then secured to the inner chuck body 17 with screws 24. The inner and outer chuck bodies 17 and 19 have an axis 14 about which they are rotated. An

actuator 13 is axially slidably supported within the body structure 12 for controlling the radial displacement of the jaw assemblies 11. It is important to note that as shown in FIG. 4, the jaw assemblies 11, specifically the jaw carrier 31 of the jaw assemblies, is secured between the inner chuck body 17 and the outer plate 23 thereby restraining the jaw carriers from movement along the axis 14. Therefore, the jaw assemblies 11 may only be radially displaced upon movement of the actuator 13.

As defined in the amended independent Claims 1 and 10, the jaw assemblies of the present invention move diagonally relative to the chuck axis as the inner chuck body moves along the chuck axis. More specifically, the jaw rods include a horizontal component generally parallel to the chuck axis and a vertical component generally perpendicular to the chuck axis to create such diagonal movement. Applicants respectfully submit that Rosewarne with only radial movement, i.e., a vertical component generally perpendicular to the chuck axis, does not show each and every limitation of the present invention and therefore the present invention is not anticipated by Rosewarne.

The Examiner rejected Claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Rosewarne et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,602,797 to Morawski et al. Applicants respectfully submit that Morawski does not overcome the limitations of Rosewarne as described above. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 3 is allowable.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the statements that Claims 4, 5, 8, and 13 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended Claims 4 and 5 to overcome the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 4, 5, and 8 and new Claims 17-20 dependent on one of Claims 4 and 5 are in a condition for allowance.

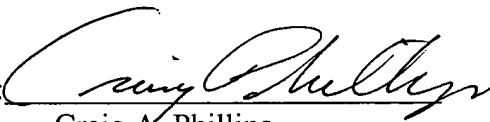
Applicants respectfully submit that in view of the amendments made to the claims and the remarks above, that all of the pending claims 1-6 and 8-20 are in a condition for allowance.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures

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